

## House Resolution No. 358

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives recognize the significance of the institution of marriage as a vital foundation of American society and wholeheartedly believe that a successful union can be achieved only through a loving relationship of mutual honor, respect, and trust; and

**Whereas**, a period of six wondrous decades has passed since Robert Bland lovingly took the hand of his beautiful bride, Alta Pettey, during a solemn ceremony on January 28, 1945, at the Eolia Methodist Church in Eolia, Missouri; and

**Whereas**, in the years since that heavenly day, Robert and Alta Bland have had the pleasure of raising three children, Steven Bland, Dale Bland and Joy Bland Hoyt, and the privilege of spoiling seven grandchildren, Brent Bland, Shawn Bland, Amy Bland Kogan, Emily Bland, Martina Hoyt, Bethany Hoyt and Elissa Hoyt, and three great-grandchildren, Beth Ann Kogan, Katie Bland, and Cyrus Bland; and

**Whereas**, now retired, Robert Bland has compiled an impressive record of achievement that includes serving as an Audrain County Commissioner and being the former owner of the Dairy Queen in Vandalia and a member of the Masons, the Scottish Rite, the Shriners Club, the Pike County Historical Society, the Audrain County Genealogy Society, the Pike County Genealogy Society, and the 4-H Club, where he has volunteered for twenty-five years; and

**Whereas**, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Alta Bland has further distinguished herself by serving as a Secretary with the Vandalia First Baptist Church for fifteen years, being a member of the Liberty Bell Club, the Audrain County Genealogy Society, the Pike County Genealogy Society, and a 4-H Club volunteer for thirty-five years and a Christian Clown volunteer for 30 years; and

**Whereas**, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bland derive a tremendous amount of spiritual fulfillment through their affiliation with the Vandalia First Baptist Church, where Robert serves as Deacon and Alta is a member of the Women's Missionary Society; and

**Whereas**, Robert and Alta Bland, residents of Vandalia, commemorated the resplendent occasion of their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary with a special celebration on January 30, 2005, at the Family Life Center in Vandalia:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously in extending our most hearty congratulations to Robert and Alta Bland and in wishing them only the very best as they continue their journey walking hand-in-hand along life's path; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bland.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Terry L. Witte  
District No. 10

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 358, adopted February 3, 2005.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker